



Community and Welsh Language Impact Assessment

Proposal to close Ysgol Llanbedr DC from August 31st 2014 and transfer pupils to Ysgol Borthyn, Ruthin subject to parental preference

January 2014

Table of Contents

1.	Introduction
2.	National Context
3.	Local Context
4.	Area Reviews
5.	Community Use of Schools
6.	Promoting Bi-lingualism
7.	Background
8.	Sources of Information
9.	Ysgol Llanbedr DC
10.	Community Impact Assessment
11.	Summary of potential impact on community and families
12.	Welsh Language Impact Assessment
13.	Summary of potential impact on the Welsh Language

1. Introduction

1.1 Denbighshire County Council is proposing to close Ysgol Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd (Ysgol Llanbedr DC) on the 31st of August 2014 and transfer pupils to Ysgol Borthyn, Ruthin, subject to parental preference.

2. National Context

2.1 The Welsh Assembly Government Circular 021/2009 on School Organisation Proposals requires local authorities to conduct a Community Impact Assessment and a Welsh Language Impact Assessment when proposing changes to school organisation.

2.2 The Circular stipulates that local authorities need to consider:

- *“the impact that proposals may have on local families and the local community, through preparation of a community impact assessment”*
- *“the effect of the Welsh language through the preparation of a language impact assessment if any school affected is Welsh medium or bilingual”*

2.3 The WG has recently passed a new piece of legislation; the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013. This act requires the production of a Schools Organisation Code (the **Code**) which will replace the Circular. The Code contains similar requirements to the circular but extends the explanation of what must and should be considered by local authorities; it pulls together and codifies existing best practice.

3. Local Context

3.1 Denbighshire is committed to modernising education in the county to ensure children and young people receive a first class education.

3.2 We recognise the importance of having modern and fit for purpose buildings that meet the needs of modern day education. Schools need to be able to provide the best

possible learning experience to make sure that children and young people have the best opportunities available to them and that they are able to reach their full potential.

3.3 The council adopted the Modernising Education Policy Framework on the 27 January 2009. The policy framework is a collection of 10 policies developed to provide the basis for the modernising education agenda.

4. Area Reviews

4.1 The policy framework commits the Council to reviewing primary school provision on an area basis in recognition of the fact that changes to a school will have an impact upon neighbouring schools.

5. Community Use of Schools

5.1 One of the policies contained within the framework relates to 'Community Use of Schools' and highlights Denbighshire's commitment to community focused schools. The policy also stipulates that the authority will conduct community impact assessments when considering changes to school organisation.

6. Promoting Bilingualism

6.1 The framework also contains a policy on promoting bilingualism. Denbighshire County Council recognises how important bilingualism is in 21st Century Wales. It is the Council's aspiration that all children and young people leave full time education being competent and confident using both Welsh and English languages. This aspiration is in accordance with the Welsh Assembly Government's 'Iaith Pawb: A National Action Plan for a Bilingual Wales'.

6.2 The Council is committed to expanding the provision of Welsh medium education throughout the County to meet this aspiration. All schools in the County have been categorised according to the expected language outcome for pupils. There is an expectation that schools will increase and strengthen the bilingual nature of their

school over time and will work towards moving up through the categories so that more pupils have the opportunity to be fully bilingual.

7. Background

7.1 The council's Cabinet approved the Modernising Education Policy Framework in January 2009 to provide a platform to review existing school provision.

7.2 Denbighshire County Council is committed to providing a first class education for all children and young people in the county. As part of this commitment, the council has agreed that modernising education provision is a priority because we recognise the importance of having school buildings, learning environments and resources that meet the needs of 21st century Wales.

7.3 We know that we have to change and modernise education provision in the county, as improvements in education cannot be sustained without changes to the way education is provided. Schools need to be able to provide the best possible learning experience so that children and young people in Denbighshire have the widest opportunities available to them and are able to reach their full potential.

7.4 As part of this ongoing commitment the Council have embarked on a series of area reviews looking at primary school provision. In February 2013 the Council began an initial consultation on the review of primary school provision in the Ruthin area.

7.5 The review included 11 primary schools in the area – Ysgol Borthyn, Ysgol Bro Fammau, Ysgol Clocaenog, Ysgol Cyffylliog, Ysgol Gellifor, Ysgol Llanbedr DC, Ysgol Pen Barras, Ysgol Pentrecelyn, Rhos Street School and Ysgol Rhewl. The initial consultation document highlighted a number of issues that needed to be addressed across the area including size, location, condition of school buildings and facilities, sustainability of sites, dependence on mobile classrooms, surplus places and headteacher recruitment. The initial consultation document also highlighted the objectives that school re-organisation within the Ruthin area should deliver:

- An educational system able to sustain and safeguard standards of education within the area and provide an opportunity for improvement;
- Maintain or strengthen Welsh Medium and Bilingual provision;
- Reduce the number of surplus (empty) places;
- Address issues surrounding the recruitment of Headteachers;
- Removal of mobile accommodation;
- Assist the authority to attract capital funding to improve school buildings and facilities;

7.6 The initial consultation ended on the 22nd March 2013. This proposal is one of a number of proposals and recommendations that have been developed by the authority to meet the objectives set out above in addition to recommendations for other schools within the review.

7.7 The proposals and recommendations set out by the authority are as follows;

- a.)** Phase 1: Denbighshire County Close would close Ysgol Clocaenog and Ysgol Cyffylliog on the 31st of August 2014 and establish a new area school on the existing sites from the 1st of September 2014.

Phase 2: Would see the New Area School consolidated on one site in the Clocaenog Area.

- b.)** Close Ysgol Llanbedr DC and transfer pupils to Ysgol Borthyn, Ruthin subject to parental preference.
- c.)** Recommend that further detailed analysis is undertaken on the Ruthin town schools, to include; Ysgol Borthyn, Ysgol Pen Barras, Ysgol Rhewl and Rhos Street School.

d.) Recommend for both Governing Bodies (Ysgol Llanfair DC and Ysgol Pentrecelyn) to enter discussions regarding formation of a Federation. Denbighshire County Council would seek for an agreement in principle by January 2014 with a view to the federation being established from the 1st of September 2014.*

**Phase two would be to close both schools and establish a new area school in the Llanfair area as part of Denbighshire County Council's Band B proposals (2019 onwards).*

e.) Retain both schools (Ysgol Gellifor and Ysgol Bryn Clwyd) within the existing Federation and request the Governing Body to move one or both schools along the Welsh Language Continuum and to address the current imbalance in pupil numbers between both schools.*

f.) Retain Ysgol Bro Famau as it serves a large geographical area; however there is significant surplus therefore it is recommended that the Governing Body review how space is used within the school to ensure current capacity represents use by the school.*

** These proposals can only be progressed by the Governing Bodies of each school*

Further information on the other proposals can be found on the Denbighshire website – www.denbighshire.gov.uk/modernisingeducation

This document is primarily concerned with the potential impact of ***'Proposal 2 – Close Ysgol Llanbedr DC and transfer pupils to Ysgol Borthyn, Ruthin subject to parental preference'***.

Consideration has been given to the potential impact on the Welsh Language and on the local communities resulting from this proposal.

8. Sources of Information

8.1 The following sources of information have been used as part of the Impact Assessments:-

- Impact Assessment Questionnaires returned by each headteacher;

- PLASC January 2013 Data;
- Statistical data stored by Denbighshire County Council;
- Census Information;
- Denbighshire’s Welsh Education Scheme 2010-13;
- Initial consultation responses;

9. Ysgol Llanbedr DC

9.1 School Details

Name of School:	Ysgol Llanbedr DC
Location:	Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd
Age Range:	3-11
Language Designation:	English Medium School, Category 5

Ysgol Llanbedr is an English Medium faith based primary school located in the village of Llanbedr DC which is approximately 1.8 miles from the town of Ruthin.

9.2 Other schools in the area;

School	Location	Age Range	Language	Approximate distance by road
Ysgol Borthyn	Ruthin	3-11	English Medium, Category 5	2.1 miles
Rhos Street School	Ruthin	3-11	English Medium, Category 5	1.3 miles
Ysgol Gellifor	Gellifor	3-11	English Medium, Category 5	2.9 miles

9.3 The proposal would have a direct impact on Ysgol Borthyn as this is the nearest English Medium faith based primary school.

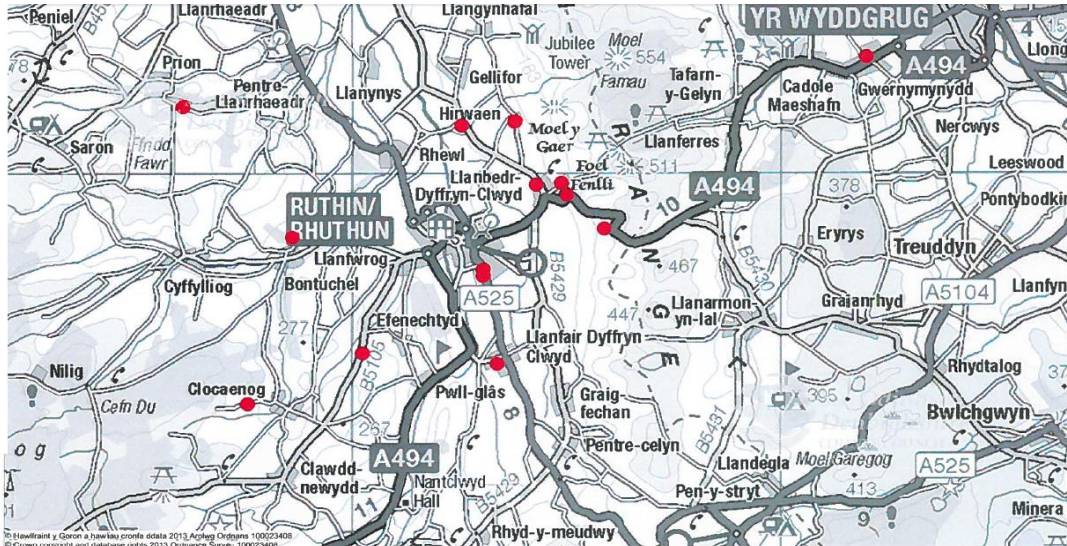
9.4 Number of pupils at the school;

	Full-time pupils on roll (taken from PLASC* returns)		
	January 2011	January 2012	January 2013
Ysgol Llanbedr DC	59	37	21

* PLASC – Pupil Level Annual School Census

9.5 Denbighshire County Council does not use catchment areas when determining school admissions. Schools are simply referred to as the ‘nearest suitable school’ which takes into account language and faith based preferences. However parental preference means pupils can attend any school so long as there are places available. The table below demonstrates the number of pupils within the Llanbedr area and the schools they attend;

School	Number of Pupils
Ysgol Pen Barras	9
Ysgol Llanbedr	7
Ysgol Gellifor	5
Ysgol Bro Fammau	3
Ysgol Llanfair DC	2
Rhos Street School	2
Ysgol Borthyn	1
Plas Brondyffryn	1
Rhewl	1
Total:	31



9.6 Fluency of pupils at the school;

	Pupils on roll (taken from PLASC* 2013 return)		
	Fluent in Welsh	Can speak Welsh but not fluent	Cannot speak Welsh
Ysgol Llanbedr DC	0	5	20

* PLASC – Pupil Level Annual School Census

**Including Full and Part-Time numbers on roll

- % figures are percentage of total full-time pupils at the school

9.7 Home language of pupils at the school;

	Full-time pupils on roll (taken from PLASC* 2013 return)		
	Speaks Welsh at home	Does not speak Welsh at home	Not Applicable (cannot speak Welsh)
Ysgol Llanbedr DC	0	5	20

* PLASC – Pupil Level Annual School Census

- % figures are percentage of total full-time pupils at the school

9.8 Governing Body Details;

Total Number of Governors	11
Total Number of Welsh Speaking Governors	2
Language of Governing Body Meetings:	English
Minutes of Governing Body Meetings:	English

- This information was provided by the headteacher while completing the impact assessment questionnaire

9.9 Additional School Provision;

Breakfast Club:	Yes
After School Club:	Yes
Holiday Club:	Yes

- This information was provided by the headteacher while completing the impact assessment questionnaire

9.10 Childcare / Pre-School Provision;

Provision	Language (Welsh / English / Bilingual)
Munchkins provides care from 8am to 6pm for children over the age of 2. They are also registered providers for Rising Three's provision of which they currently have 5 children registered. Munchkins also provides a weekly playgroup for parents with younger children from within the community. During the school holidays they also run a Holiday Club which is accessible to all children in the community from the age of 2.	English with everyday Welsh

9.11 Parent & Teacher Association (PTA);

Is there a PTA at the school?	Yes
Name of Association	Friends of Ysgol Llanbedr
Frequency of Meetings (Weekly / Monthly / Termly)	Half Termly
Language of Meetings (Welsh / English / Bilingual)	English
Contact Details (Name / Telephone / E-mail)	Mrs. Kate Spencer Jones Mathew@kate@hotmail.com 01824 750551

9.12 Community Facilities

The following community facilities were listed by the headteacher when completing the Impact Assessment questionnaire:-

- Community Hall
- Post Office
- Toilets
- Car Parking Facilities
- Wi-Fi facilities in Community Hall
- Children's Parties Community Hall
- Community Miles (walks)
- Waen Woods
- Church Bench
- Vale Country Club
- Griffin Pub
- Book Swap Facility
- Route 66- Pub
- Choir-Pub
- Quiz Night- Pub
- Community Craft
- Slate Garden (reflection area)
- Church
- Sunday School- Community Hall
- Playing Field- School
- Outdoor Classroom Area
- Community Website
- Bus stops and bus routes
- Dial a ride/taxi for older people
- Astro Turf- School
- Trim Trail Play Area- School Field
- Picnic Area- School
- Sensory and wildlife garden-school
- Parking-School- Weekends and Evening
- Munchkins and Playgroup

9.13 Community Activities – School Building

The following community activities taking place within the school building were listed by the headteacher when completing the Impact Assessment questionnaire:-

Activity (e.g. Evening Lessons, Welsh Lessons, Local Interest Clubs, Youth Club etc)	Frequency (e.g. Weekly, Monthly, Annually)	Language (Welsh / English / Bilingual)
Astro Turf – Five a Side	Twice Weekly	Bilingual
Playgroup	Weekly	English with everyday Welsh
Fayres – to include Summer, Christmas, Autumn	Termly	English with everyday Welsh
Special Occasion Community Events eg Jubilee Party	Various	English with everyday Welsh
After School Clubs – Ruthin Tennis Club, Ruthin Rugby Club, Wrexham Football Club, Hockey Wales	Weekly	English with everyday Welsh
Urdd Club	Weekly	Bilingual
Childcare Facilities for pupils from surrounding area who are unable to attend their own sites due to school closures.	Various	English with everyday Welsh
Christian Services	Weekly	English with everyday Welsh
Church visitors – to include Sunday School	Monthly	English with everyday Welsh
Dee Clwyd Rivers Trust	Monthly	English with everyday Welsh
AONB – Developing the Wildlife Garden	Monthly	English with everyday Welsh
Firework Display	Annually	English with everyday Welsh

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9.14 Community Activities – Other;

The following other community activities were listed by the headteacher when completing the Impact Assessment questionnaire:-

Activity (e.g. Evening Lessons, Welsh Lessons, Local Interest Clubs, Youth Club etc)	Location	Frequency (e.g. Weekly, Monthly, Annually)	Language (Welsh / English / Bilingual)
Christmas Lights Event	Village	Annually	Bilingual
Community Events and Celebrations	Community Hall	Weekly	Bilingual
Harvest Dinner	Community Hall	Annually	Bilingual
Annual Village Show	Community Hall	Annually	Bilingual
Vale Country Club Classes	Vale Country Club	Daily	Bilingual
Football Club	Astro Turf Ysgol Llanbedr	Weekly	Bilingual
Zumba Gold, Line dancing, Website Training, Pilates, Hobbyists, Band Practive, Table Tennis, Committee Meetings, Yoga, Karate, Kiddi Zumba, Singing Workshop, Scottish Dancing, Sunday School, Children’s Parties.	Community Hall	Weekly	Bilingual
Christian Worship	Church	Various	Bilingual
Weddings and Christenings and Burials	Church	Various	Bilingual
Choir	Church	Various	Bilingual
Open Weekends eg Harvest Weekends and Artists etc.	Church	Various	Bilingual

Important Christian Calendar Event services with Ysgol Llanbedr	Church	Various	Bilingual

9.15 Additional Information Supplied by School

Please provide details of any activities / events arranged by the PTA over the past 12 months and language medium where appropriate. –

Friends of Ysgol Llanbedr Events that have taken place at School with community involvement : (All events in the medium of English with everyday Welsh unless otherwise stated)

- Bags to School
- Hoola Hooping
- Sports Day
- Wrexham Football club
- Author Workshops
- Birds of Prey
- Christmas Fayre
- Christmas Dinner
- Enviromental Artis Day
- Munchkins Fundraiser Discos
- Valentines Disco
- Easter Egg Hunt and Concert
- Jubilee party
- Puppet Shows
- Birds of Prey
- St David's Day Eisteddfod with Teas and coffees with community - Welsh
- Munchkins Party
- Firework display
- Orienteering

Friends of Ysgol Llanbedr Events that have taken place within the Community: (All events in the medium of English with everyday Welsh unless otherwise stated)

- Harvest Easter Service
- Christmas Service
- Body Shop Party
- Llanbedr Christmas Lights
- Ruthin Lantern Parade
- Llysfasi Christmas Carols - Welsh
- Summer Ball – Charity Event
- Church Candlemass
- Community Lantern Walks
- Community Hall – Teas and Coffees
- Ruthin Library - Bilingual

Other School Activities that take place in the Wider Community: (All events in the medium of English with everyday Welsh unless otherwise stated)

- Swimming – Ruthin Leisure Centre

- Gymnastics and Dance – Ysgol Brynhyfryd Gymnasium with leadership from Sixth Form pupils at Ysgol Brynhyfryd
- Jamboree – Ysgol Brynhyfryd - Welsh
- Cycling Proficiency
- Ruthin Library Visits
- Local Walks in surrounding area
- Ruthin Gaol and Nantclwyd House Visits
- Hwyl Gwyl – Ysgol Bryn Clwyd - Welsh
- Coleg Llysfasi Christmas Carols - Welsh

10. Community Impact Assessment

10.1 This Impact Assessment is to consider the potential impact on families and the local community language from the proposal to close Ysgol Llanbedr DC and transfer pupils to Ysgol Borthyn subject to parental preference.

10.2 In order to assess the potential impact on families and the local community consideration has been given to the following areas:-

- School Designation;
- School links to the local community;
- Impact on neighbouring schools;
- Impact on parents and families;
- Travelling Implications for pupils/parents;
- Impact on community activities;
- Impact on community facilities;
- Impact on community demographics;

Impact Criteria	Comments	Impact (positive, neutral or negative)	Measures to reduce negative impact	Residual Impact
School Designation	<p>Ysgol Llanbedr DC is a faith based primary school with an age range of 3-11 providing English medium education.</p> <p>Ysgol Borthyn is a faith based primary school with an age range of 3-11 providing English medium education.</p>	NEUTRAL	N/A	N/A
School links to the community	<p>The closure of Ysgol Llanbedr DC would remove the school from the community.</p> <p>Ysgol Borthyn is located within the town of Ruthin and has no existing links with the community of Llanbedr DC.</p>	NEGATIVE	N/A	N/A
Impact on neighbouring schools	<p>The proposal would have an impact on Ysgol Borthyn with pupils from Ysgol Llanbedr DC transferring to Ysgol Borthyn, subject to parental preference.</p> <p>There is potential for there to be an effect on other schools within the Ruthin as Ysgol Llanbedr DC serves a wide area. There are places available within the system for the pupils of Ysgol Llanbedr.</p>	NEUTRAL	N/A	N/A

<p>Impact on pupils</p>	<p>The proposal could have a positive impact on pupils through an improved education provision and access to a greater range of activities.</p> <p>Pupils would benefit from interacting with a larger group of children and larger peer groups.</p>	<p>POSITIVE</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Impact on parents and families</p>	<p>There is potential for a greater impact on parents and families from Llanbedr DC if their pupils transfer to Ysgol Borthyn, Ruthin.</p> <p>The loss of the school as an informal social environment for parents to interact would have an impact on parents.</p> <p>However there could be potential benefits to parents and families from potentially accessing a greater range of services and being part of a wider school community.</p>	<p>NEUTRAL</p>	<p>The retention of some non-statutory provision or after school care in the village would provide an informal social environment for parents.</p> <p>Activities at the community hall could also provide an informal social environment for parents.</p>	<p>POSITIVE</p>
<p>Travelling implications for pupils/parents</p>	<p>Closing Ysgol Llanbedr would result in pupils from Llanbedr DC having to travel further to school. The most probable destination would be Ysgol Borthyn. As Ysgol Llanbedr school serves a wide catchment area in some instances this is a nearest school for a proportion of the pupils.</p> <p>Free transport would be provided in accordance with Denbighshire's transport policy.</p> <p>Parents from Llanbedr DC would also need to travel to collect their children from any additional after-school activities. It is recognised that a number of parents may</p>	<p>NEGATIVE</p>	<p>Free transport would be provided for future pupils in accordance with Denbighshire's Transport Policy.</p> <p>The local authority and the Governing Body of Ysgol Borthyn could consider ways of ensuring after school provision is as accessible as possible for all pupils.</p>	<p>NEUTRAL</p>

	already have to travel to collect their children from these activities.			
Impact on community activities	<p>A number of community activities currently take place either with the school or on the school grounds. Following the closure of the school these activities could no longer take place unless the school site was retained for the community.</p> <p>The Council has a policy where it would consider transferring a surplus school site or part of a school site to a community group where they can demonstrate a need and ability to take over the running of the site however in this instance the authority do not own the school building or land.</p>	NEGATIVE	The community activities could relocate to the community hall in Llanbedr or be retained at the school site in accordance with the wishes of the diocese.	NEUTRAL
Impact on community facilities	It should be noted that a separate community hall exists in Llanbedr. Use of the community hall instead of the school building could also strengthen the hall as a community facility.	NEUTRAL	N/A	N/A

Impact on community demographics	<p>Feedback from the initial consultation has highlighted a fear by many that the loss of the school from the community would result in problems in the future with the Local Development Plan citing the build of 71 dwellings.</p> <p>It should be noted that demographics are changing and that in Denbighshire the percentage of the population over 65 is projected to increase dramatically over the coming years.</p> <p>While access to local educational facilities is a key factor for parents and young families, other key considerations include affordable housing and the availability of work.</p>	NEUTRAL	N/A	N/A
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Overview – Potential initial impact on families and the local community

	Positive	Neutral	Negative
Overall Impact*	1	5	3

* This does not take into account any measures that could be undertaken to reduce negative impact

Overview – Potential residual impact families and the local community

	Positive	Neutral	Negative
Overall Impact*	1	2	0

* This takes into account measures that could be undertaken to reduce negative impact

11. Summary of Potential Impact on families and the local community

- 11.1 It should be noted that attempting to gauge the potential impact from school organisation on families and the local community is a difficult undertaking. The main positive emerging from the impact assessment is the impact on pupils through improved education provision.
- 11.2 The impact assessment has identified a number of possible areas where the proposal could impact negatively on local families and on the local community. Losing a school from the community is going to sever links between the school and the local community. Pupils are expected to transfer to Ysgol Borthyn in Ruthin. There are measures that could be adopted to lessen the impact through fostering close links between the community and Ysgol Borthyn, however developing these links will take time and the initial impact will be negative.
- 11.3 The loss of the school would impact on the community activities taking place and the community facilities within Llanbedr DC. There is scope for a number of activities currently taking place on the school site to relocate to the community hall and the Council has a policy regarding the retention of any surplus school site within the community which could reduce the negative impact and potentially result in a positive for the community.
- 11.4 The loss of the school would result in the removal of an informal meeting place for parents within the community. However there is a well utilised village hall in Llanbedr DC that could be used to host the activities that currently take place at the school and provides another informal meeting place for parents and the wider community.
- 11.5 **Conclusion:** The proposal would impact positively on parents and children through an improved educational provision for the children. However the proposal has the potential to impact negatively on parents from Llanbedr DC and the Llanbedr DC community.

It should be noted that the potential negative impacts resulting from this proposal could be reduced by the local authority by the adoption of a number of possible measures to ensure that the community in Llanbedr DC continues to thrive.

The existence of a separate village hall that already host a number of activities and could host activities that currently take place at the school provides a focal point for the community that would continue after the school has been closed. The potential increase in activity at the hall following the closure of the school could improve the long term viability of this community facility.

The local authority is committed to working with local communities and has an external funding advisory service to assist local communities in accessing funding for community projects.

12. Welsh Language Impact Assessment

12.1 This Impact Assessment is to consider the potential impact on the Welsh language of the proposal to close Ysgol Llanbedr DC.

12.2 In order to assess the potential impact on the Welsh Language consideration has been given to the following areas:-

- Language of the school;
- Access to Welsh Medium education;
- Education Provision / Educational standards;
- Access to non-statutory provision;
- Access to pre / after school activities;
- Use of Welsh within the community;

12.3 The following data is taken from the 2011 census and provides information regarding the Welsh language skills of residents in the Llanbedr DC area. The census states there

are 771 residents in the Llanbedr DC area, the results for Welsh language skills are as follows;

- 31% of residents (aged 3 and over) are Welsh speakers; this is higher than the Denbighshire and Wales average which is 24.6% and 19% respectively.
- 22.7% of residents (aged 3 and over) can speak, read and write Welsh; this is higher than the Denbighshire and Wales average which is 18.6% and 14.6% respectively.
- 44.1% of residents (aged 3 and over) have one or more skills in Welsh; this is higher than the Denbighshire and Wales average which is 35.4% and 26.7% respectively.

Impact Criteria	Comments	Impact (positive, neutral or negative)	Measures to reduce negative impact	Residual Impact
Language of the school	<p>Ysgol Llanbedr DC is an English medium Category 5 school.</p> <p>The pupils would be transferred (subject to parental preference) to Ysgol Borthyn, Ruthin, which is also an English medium Category 5 school.</p>	NEUTRAL	N/A	N/A
Access to Welsh Medium education	<p>Ysgol Llanbedr DC provides an English medium primary education where the statutory requirement for teaching of the Welsh language is met.</p> <p>The recommendation for the pupils to be moved to Ysgol Borthyn, subject to parental preference, would see this provision maintained.</p>	NEUTRAL	N/A	N/A
Education Provision / Educational standards	<p>Pupils would benefit from an increased range of suitable facilities in Ysgol Borthyn.</p> <p>Pupils would have access to a larger group of teaching staff providing a range of expertise.</p> <p>Pupils will be part of larger peer groups and have more opportunities to learn alongside their peers in groups and participate in group activities</p>	POSITIVE	N/A	N/A

Non-statutory provision	Pupils would have access to an increased range of suitable facilities, a larger compliment of staff and be part of larger peer groups. However this could impact on the accessibility of nursery provision for children living in Llanbedr as free transport is not provided for nursery pupils.	NEGATIVE	N/A	N/A
Pre/After school activities	Currently Llanbedr DC provide a breakfast club and an after school club. There is no after school provision in Ysgol Borthyn which presents a potential negative impact.	NEGATIVE	The Governing Body of the new school could consider providing an increased range of provision / activities.	NEUTRAL
Use of Welsh within the community	The Llanbedr DC area has a high proportion of Welsh speakers (above the Denbighshire and Wales average). The school provides an English medium education and would have a neutral impact on the use of Welsh within the community.	NEUTRAL	N/A	N/A

Overview – Potential initial impact on Welsh Language

	Positive	Neutral	Negative
Overall Impact*	1	3	2

* This does not take into account any measures that could be undertaken to reduce negative impact

Overview – Potential residual impact

	Positive	Neutral	Negative
Overall Impact*	0	1	0

* This takes into account measures that could be undertaken to reduce negative impact

13. Summary of Potential Impact on the Welsh Language

- 13.1 It should be noted that attempting to gauge the potential impact from school organisation on the Welsh Language is a difficult undertaking. The main positive emerging from the impact assessment is the impact on the educational provision. Providing an improved educational provision represents an opportunity to strengthen Welsh education in the area and as a result strengthen the Welsh Language.
- 13.2 The main concern is the potential negative impact relating to access of non-statutory provision and access to pre and after school activities. Should nursery provision be provided solely in Ruthin this could impact on accessibility for parents and families who live in Llanbedr DC.
- 13.3 However it should be noted that there are many schools in Denbighshire that serve more than one community and this situation would not be unique. There are potential measures to reduce this impact that could be considered by the local authority and the Governing Body of Ysgol Borthyn.
- 13.4 Accessibility of pre and after school activities is also an area for concern. The proposal has the potential to result in an increased range of activities; however they may not be accessible by all parents and families.
- 13.5 Once again this is an issue that a number of schools in Denbighshire already face and there are potential measures to reduce this impact that could be considered by the local authority and the Governing Body of Ysgol Borthyn.
- 13.6 Conclusion: Overall the proposal would not have a negative impact on the Welsh Language with a high percentage of Welsh speakers in the community and a high percentage of those having one or more skills in Welsh. This is reflected in the numbers of pupils in the natural catchment area for Llanbedr DC attending nearby Welsh Medium schools.

